

Shavuot Classroom Activities

Infants (Birth–12 months)

Activity 1: “First Fruits” Sensory Basket

Focus: sensory exploration + vocabulary

Materials: basket, **real or toy** large fruits (apple, orange, lemon), soft cloth, baby-safe mirror

Directions:

1. Offer one fruit at a time for baby to touch (you hold it if needed).
2. Label with simple words: “round,” “smooth,” “yellow.”
3. Let baby tap or pat the fruit while you narrate.
4. Finish with mirror time: “Hello! You are loved.”

Safety: Avoid small fruit pieces; this is touch/observe only.

Activity 2: Gentle “Learning Song” Lap Time

Focus: connection + early language

Materials: none (optional soft scarf)

Directions:

1. Hold baby on your lap and sing a short “learning” rhyme:
“We learn, we grow, we try, we know...”
2. Add gentle motions (clap softly, sway).
3. Repeat key words: “learn,” “grow,” “try.”



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4. End with a cuddle and calm voice.
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Young Toddlers (1–2 years)

Activity 1: Harvest Color Hunt

Focus: movement + early sorting

Materials: colored paper circles (red/yellow/green/purple), basket

Directions:

1. Place circles around the room/outdoors.
2. Say: “Let’s find **red apples!**” (collect red circles)
3. Switch: “Now find **yellow lemons!**”
4. Count together: “1–2–3!”

Tip: Keep it to 2–3 colors.

Activity 2: “Thank You” Practice Circle

Focus: gratitude language + social skills

Materials: soft “talking object” (ball/plush)

Directions:

1. Sit in a small circle.
2. Pass the object and model: “Thank you for helping.”
3. Toddlers repeat “thank you” (or wave/nod) to the next friend.



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4. Keep it quick and positive.
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Older Toddlers (2–3 years)

Activity 1: “Learning is Growing” Planting Cups

Focus: science + responsibility

Materials: cups, cotton balls/paper towel, beans (or chia), water spray bottle, marker

Directions:

1. Add damp cotton to a cup.
2. Place 2–3 beans where kids can see them.
3. Label with name/date.
4. Mist daily and watch for sprouts.
5. Say: “We learn and grow—like plants.”

Safety: Supervise closely to prevent mouthing beans.

Activity 2: Flower Collage

Focus: fine motor + seasonal decor

Materials: paper flowers/leaves (pre-cut), glue sticks, crayons, large paper

Directions:

1. Explain: “Some families decorate with flowers for Shavuot.”
2. Children glue flowers onto a class poster.



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3. Add names and simple messages: “We love learning!”
 4. Hang as a classroom display.
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Preschool (3–5 years)

Activity 1: “Learn Something New”

Focus: learning celebration

Materials: paper circles (badges), markers, stickers

Directions:

1. Teach one tiny new skill (2–3 minutes): a new word in another language, a simple sign, or a fun fact about plants.
 2. Children practice it once or twice.
 3. Give each child a “Learner Badge” to decorate: “I learned ____!”
 4. Share: kids tell one thing they learned (or teacher reads dictation).
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Activity 2: First Fruits Sorting & Graphing

Focus: math + classification

Materials: fruit picture cards (or plastic fruit), chart paper, tape

Directions:

1. Show fruit cards and name them.
2. Children sort by color (red/yellow/green/purple) or type (round/not round).



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3. Make a simple class graph: “Which fruit color has the most?”
 4. Count together and compare.
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School Age (6+)

Activity 1: Gratitude + Learning Journal Page

Focus: reflection + writing

Materials: paper/notebook, pencils, optional clipboard

Directions:

1. Explain: “Shavuot can be about learning and gratitude.”
 2. Students complete prompts:
 - “Something I learned this year is...”
 - “A person who helped me learn is...”
 - “I’m thankful for...”
 3. Optional share-out (voluntary).
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Activity 2: Harvest Helpers Service Project

Focus: giving back + teamwork

Materials: bags/box, labels, paper for notes

Directions:

1. Choose a simple “giving” project connected to harvest themes:



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- make thank-you notes for cafeteria staff/farmers market workers
 - collect classroom supplies for a younger class
 - create a “sharing shelf” of gently used books (program policy permitting)
2. Assign roles and complete the project.
 3. Reflect: “How did we help our community?”



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